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# Lumina

Issue 16 · 07 Oct 2021

*Welcome to Issue 16. Welcome back to our Year 7-11 students online, and Year 12 students who completed the GAT exam on Tuesday. It's great to see our Year 12 students back learning in classrooms at the College as they now prepare for their final exams. We look forward to later this month when all our students are able to return to face to face learning.*

*I am very excited to announce in this edition the launch of a new St Mary's publication, Liberations magazine. It celebrates our College current and former students. Go to the Community page to find out more and read Liberations.*

*Take care and stay safe.*

**Director of Development | Elaine Doyle**

## In this issue



From the Principal



Learning



Around the College



Pathways



Identity



Co-curricular



Wellbeing



Our Students



Our Community



Notices



Parents & Friends



# From the Principal

Terry Blizzard

## **Welcome back to Term 4.**

It was wonderful to see the Year 12s this week and to have them back onsite. This is such an important time of year for them and so critical that they can be in classes with access to their teachers and to be with their friends. At this stage we await Government guidelines as to what the end of year celebrations can and will look like for our Year 12 students, obviously we hope to celebrate their graduation in an appropriate and safe manner.

We also look forward to the proposed staggered return of all year levels to onsite learning later this month and again strongly encourage families to consider having their sons and daughters vaccinated in readiness for the return.

## **Building**

We are pleased to say that towards the end of this term we will be commencing some modernisation works on the McCartney and Corbett wings at the Edmund Rice site. As a means to ensuring the site is compliant for disability access and importantly to then be able to commence any other planned works, we will be installing new stairs and a lift in McCartney and a new entrance to the Corbett Wing. With all capital works comes some disruption to the day to day, however we hope to minimise this with much of the work taking place in the summer holidays.

## **Uniform**

As we reimagine ourselves as St Mary's College we have determined to hasten slowly with any change to our uniform. We have been consistent in saying that we see any new uniform being a transition over a period of 2-3 years so as not to be a financial imposition on families. It continues to be acceptable for the CBC and PCW uniforms to be worn.

Commencing in 2022 we will start the phasing in of some new items for purchase when and if needed including the St Mary's College sports uniform and junior and senior St Mary's College ties.

We have entered into an arrangement with our uniform supplier Midfords for the changing over of blazer pockets to the St Mary's College design and will commence this later in the term and throughout next year.

## **Strategic Planning – Parent Survey**

Our Strategic Planning process provides us with a clear sense of where we want to be in the short to medium term. Our plan will identify what we want to achieve in the next two to three years and how we plan to get there.

It is important that our whole community contributes to this plan and this week we are emailing all parents of our College community to invite them to contribute to a Parent Survey. Please check your email account you have registered with the College, to access the online survey.

## **Liberations Magazine**

We are proud to launch a new publication that showcases the St Mary's College Community, our *Liberations* magazine. This magazine celebrates our journey, our current students' experience and tells the story of our broader Alumni Network including CBC and PCW former students. See the [Community](#) page to find out more and access your copy.

Can I wish all members of the St Mary's College community every blessing as we hopefully find our way to a version of normality in the journey to the end of the year.

**Principal | Terry Blizzard**



# Around the College

Deputy Principal | Shaun Lancashire

On each occasion over the past couple of years that students have first returned to school after a period of lockdown there has been a palpable sense of excitement and relief. A feeling that we can be normal again and that we are all so grateful to see each other and be back in a place that we feel so connected to. This was our experience at the Edmund Rice Campus on Tuesday, as we welcomed our Year 12 and accelerating students back to school to complete the General Achievement Test (GAT). Our senior students met with friends in a socially distanced setting and helped to calm each other's nerves before this 3 hour 15 minute examination. It was great to see them again, and a relief to function again in one small way for this group of students.

As we receive updated information from the Catholic Education Commission of Victoria (CECV) we continue to keep you informed of the changes to operations that impact upon the College community. One aspect of the planned easing of restrictions this term is our planning for the end of Year 12 classes and graduation events. At this stage, much of what is possible is unknown. However, I can confirm that Year 12 students will be farewelled with an online assembly next Thursday 14 October in Period 3, followed by an early dismissal and a celebration breakfast (once again, socially distanced) the next morning at the Presentation Campus.

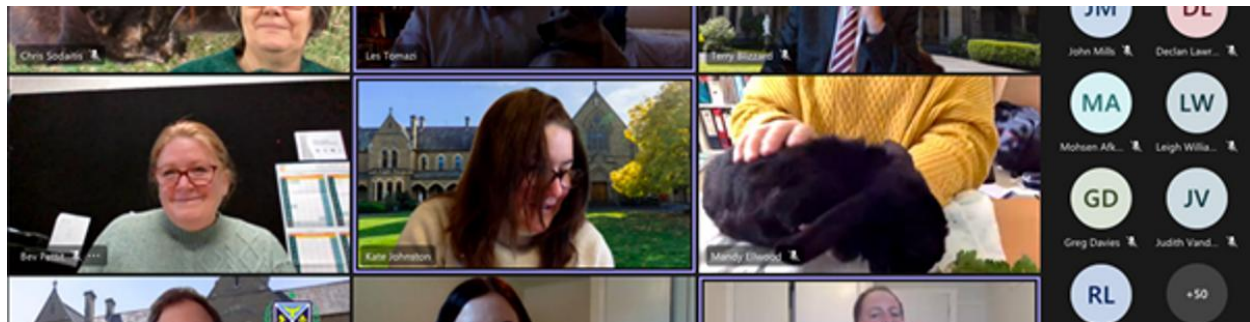
I would also like to welcome back Year 7 – 11 students to online learning. I trust that you have all had a restful break spent close to home and are ready for the term ahead. Details of the end of lockdown place the return to school in sight. We can't wait to all be back at the College together when the circumstances permit.

As mentioned in my last newsletter article, I will be presenting one of the 11 EREA child safeguarding standards on this page each fortnight. EREA child safeguarding standard 1 is entitled ***Committed Leadership, Governance and Culture***. This standard confirms the dedicated approach that all EREA school communities are taking to embed and enhance a culture of child safety and wellbeing throughout the leadership, governance and culture of the school. It is the collective responsibility of Staff, Volunteers and Contractors to establish a desirable and effective culture that upholds the principles of child safety as outlined throughout this child safeguarding framework. Please find below a link to access a full copy of EREA child safeguarding standard 1.



[EREA Child Safeguarding Standard 1.pdf](#)

**Deputy Principal | Shaun Lancashire**



# Identity

Director of Identity | Kate Johnston

Monday 4 October was the Feast of St Francis of Assisi. St Francis is the patron saint of animals and the environment.

To mark this special day we gathered to pray and give thanks for the pets in our community. Staff were asked to have their pet with them as we prayed a blessing and gave thanks for the great joy pets bring into our lives.

## ***Prayer of St Francis***

*Make me a channel of your peace,  
Where there is hatred, let me bring your love,  
Where there is injury, your pardon Lord,  
And where there's doubt, true faith in you.  
Make me a channel of your peace,  
Where there's despair in life let me bring hope,  
Where there is darkness – only light,  
And where there's sadness, ever joy.  
Oh Master, grant that I may never seek,  
So much to be consoled as to console,  
To be understood, as to understand,  
To be loved, as to love with all my soul.  
Make me a channel of your peace,  
It is in pardoning that we are pardoned,  
In giving to all men that we receive,  
And in dying that we're born to eternal life.*



## Calling all knitters!

The St Mary's College community are knitting squares to create blankets to donate to St Vinnies.

### How can I help?

Knit a square! Often known as a tension square. It needs to be 10 x 10 cm.

These will then be sewn into blankets by volunteers and donated to members of our local community. Please measure the squares. It's just so much easier to join them if they are the correct size.

### What materials should I use?

4.0 mm needles

8 ply wool

Cast on 22 stitches

Knit 30 rows



**Where can my squares be dropped off?**

Squares can be left at the St Mary's College reception. Either Presentation or Edmund Rice campus.

**What size will the blankets be?**

Large/Adult blankets to measure 140 x 180 cm.

Medium/Child blankets to measure 120 x 160 cm.

Small/Baby blankets to measure 100 x 120 cm.

**I can't knit but would like to donate some wool & needles?**

Great! Please drop off donations to the St Mary's College Reception. Either Presentation or Edmund Rice campus.

**I have a question or would like to volunteer to knit squares together?**

Great! Please contact Kate Johnston at St Mary's College.

([kjohnston@stmaryscollege.vic.edu.au](mailto:kjohnston@stmaryscollege.vic.edu.au))

**Director of Identity |** Kate Johnston

# Wellbeing



I hope you and your family had a good holiday period.

Please see above our new graphic that shares our vision for Student Wellbeing at the College. Through our programs and practices, we aim to create an environment where our students are supported so that they can thrive at their studies and enjoy their time at school.

In coming editions, I will explain what we have planned for 2022 and beyond in this area.

Also, please click [here](#) for a link to the Family Zone Program. The College is committed to



working with parents in the area of cybersafety in order to produce good digital citizens who are well informed about the digital world and make sound decisions in this space.

If you have any queries, please feel free to contact me via email:

[cpye@stmaryscollege.vic.edu.au](mailto:cpye@stmaryscollege.vic.edu.au)

Wishing you and your family a positive start to Term 4.

**Director of Students |** Chris Pye



# Learning

The return to campus on such a cold and windy day didn't dull the enthusiasm the students all displayed as they awaited to finally sit the GAT exam which was rescheduled four times this year. As a teacher, it is always soul soothing to see students in their natural environment and surrounded by the comforts of school.

Even though masks covered their mouths, I know that there were smiles behind them despite having to be at school for the exam. Unfortunately the weather was cold and coupled with COVID-19 protocols of open window ventilation, the rooms started out colder than normal. This marks the beginning of the exam season and throughout the examination period we will be maintaining our high safety standards and following COVID-19 Protocols.

*It is important that students monitor the weather and while needing to wear school uniform, are able to layer underneath if need be. However, we should be heading into warmer weather but without the ability to turn on air conditioning to cool the rooms, this is something to consider.*

As the students came out of the 3 hour 15 minute GAT exam, they seemed to be glad that it was over. They were each given a little gift bag from us which contained a range of products. This small gesture was gratefully received and showed our students that we are here to support them as they embark on their exam journey. I would sincerely like to thank Parents & Friends for their kind donation and support in allowing us to provide this small gesture to the

students. It was nice to see the appreciation from the students when they received them and I hope they can use the items while they are preparing for the exams.

It may be a stressful time for students; the staff are here not only for the students but also the parents. So please remember that we are still only a phone call, email or Teams meeting away and as always we are here to work with you to ensure our students have a calm and smooth exam experience.

**VCE/Digitech Co-ordinator | Sylvia Pastore**



# Pathways

**Careers Counsellor | Mandy Ellwood**

Year 12 students and their parents need to be aware of recent announcements by two major Universities, namely Melbourne and La Trobe, that any staff member or student attending campus next year will need to have proof of COVID-19 Vaccination.

This is hardly surprising, considering the difficulties that Universities and their students have faced over the last two years. There has been very little on-campus learning, constant change, interruptions, and the loss of the International Student cohort. I am sure these recent decisions are made with the best interests of students in mind and the hope of students being able to have a normal, enjoyable and effective learning experience.

It seems only logical to expect that most Universities will follow suit. TAFE/VET Institutes are also likely to introduce similar measures, since the practical requirements of VET Certificates and Diplomas are generally even higher than most university studies. I will keep parents of VCE and VCAL VET students informed of any developments, should such requirements be introduced for VET studies.

It is, of course, possible for students to defer most University (but not TAFE) courses for up to two years, so if a student has a difficulty with a vaccination policy, that might be an option for now. Another option is to sign up for an online course, although these will often have some requirements to attend campus from time to time.

There are many courses, both VET and University, that already require a range of vaccinations as a condition of enrolment. It is highly likely that COVID vaccination would be added. Students should check in VTAC Course Search for each course they have applied for, to see whether the **Enrolment Requirements** stipulate vaccinations. This would be relevant for most Degree and Diploma courses in Nursing, Paramedicine, Medicine and Allied Health. It is also worth checking education courses, as school staff must now be vaccinated, and school placements often take place quite early in the first semester. Students should carefully read any emails that VTAC might send them regarding their applications, in case there is further news about enrolment and attendance requirements.

For those joining the workforce soon or next year, especially apprentices, this should also serve as reminder that vaccination is mandatory for all workers in the Building Industry as well as those in a wide range of other essential employment.

Remember too, that all tertiary students will need a Tax File Number by the time they enrol in January, in order to be able to defer their fees through HECS-HELP, FEE-HELP or VET FEE-HELP.

Finally, a reminder students must complete all **SEAS and Scholarship applications**, including Supporting Statements and documentary evidence, by **5pm on Friday 8 October**. That is also the deadline for me to enter my SEAS Remote Learning Impact Rating in VTAC, so any student with information to add about their RL experiences, should email me by midday Friday.

**Careers Counsellor** | Mandy Ellwood



## Co-curricular

### Move 4 Mental Fitness

Students in Years 7-10 will all be participating in the **M4MF** initiative by ACC in weeks 1-4 of Term 4. For one HPE lesson per week students are asked to walk/bike/run as many kilometers as they can each week using a GPS enabled device or smart watch as evidence. At the end of each week they upload their screenshots and total kms to the ACC website using the link below.

Students were all recording their activity in Term 3 using the Strava app, so this takes getting active to the next next level; incorporating inter-school challenge between the 12 ACC schools.

More information can be found on the ACC Website: <https://www.accmelb.com.au/> or <https://www.accmelb.com.au/m4mf/>

The M4MF form can be found here:  
<https://www.accmelb.com.au/m4mf-form/>

Staff and students are encouraged to be as active as possible during this time; the benefits are more than physical. Looking after our mental health has significantly risen as a priority for most people as we endeavour to do our best in the World's longest lockdown; being active is a simple yet effective way to start to do this.

Follow the ACC on social media for progress, mental health information and other key items such as their newsletter.



Associated  
Catholic  
Colleges

*"Excellence,  
Honour and  
Fairness in  
Student Activities"*

**MOST OUTSTANDING PERFORMER**  
**ACC SENIOR SPORT AWARDS 2021**

**SOCCER DIVISION 2**

**YIANNI  
DROSSOS**



The ACC congratulates Yianni Drossos of St Mary's College on being recognised as the Most Outstanding Performer for Senior Division Two Soccer in Term 2 of 2021.

Yianni was the captain of the soccer team and demonstrated strong leadership both on and off the pitch. He played consistently well in each and every match and also displayed maturity and great sportsmanship. As a centre back, he was always very vocal, supportive and decisive. He would not only repel opposition attacks but also play the ball into dangerous offensive positions. Yianni was a captain that led by example and was constructive in his communication to teammates. He played in every match and is a credit to his family and school.



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*"Excellence,  
Honour and  
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Student Activities"*

**MOST OUTSTANDING PERFORMER**  
**ACC SENIOR SPORT AWARDS 2021**

**FOOTBALL DIVISION 2**

**AIDAN  
WILLIAMS**



The ACC congratulates Aidan Williams of St Mary's College on being recognised as the Most Outstanding Performer for Senior Division Two Football in Term 2 of 2021.

Aidan is a ruckmen with excellent endurance. Aidan gets to a lot of contests, he is good at ground level and excellent at following up after a stoppage. Aidan also won the indigenous medal for best on ground against Whitefriars.



## Aerobics Notice

The **SCSA Aerobics** competition will proceed online on **26 November 21** for Years 7-12 Mrs O'Callaghan will co-ordinate and arrange rehearsal time as previously in Term 3. Please make sure you have emailed her to confirm your continued interest in competing.

[locallaghan@stmaryscollege.vic.edu.au](mailto:locallaghan@stmaryscollege.vic.edu.au)

**Director of Sport** | Lucy McKeown



# Our Students

So far it has been an unpredictable and tough year. We have constantly been going in and out of lockdowns, and therefore we have spent a lot of time doing remote learning. This has made school much more challenging than it normally would have been. After all the challenges related to remote learning, we are finally reaching the end of it.

As we are in the final phase of online learning, we need to keep positive so we can return to school with the best possible attitude. Think about all the things there are to look forward to that are associated with our return to school.

Personally, I am looking forward to not having to deal with the difficulties to do with remote learning and I am excited to finally be able to see all my friends again.

Wishing everyone a good start to the term.

**Year 10 student | Nick H.**



# Our Community

View our College Calendar for events and important dates

Please note that due to COVID restrictions it has been necessary to move the date of many events.

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## Walkathon donations are closing



Thank you to all families who have generously contributed to raising the amount of **\$28,093.00**

This year our donations will go to the **Fr Bob Maguire Foundation** and our continued support of charities for school children in India who so desperately need our help during these COVID times. We will be closing donation at the end of October.

**Please note the Walkathon ID Numbers:****Students and staff** please use your Walkathon ID number**Parents & Friends** use ID **709****Alumni and Community** use ID **70**

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## Strategic Plan - Parent Survey

Thank you to families who have completed the Strategic Plan Parent Survey we have had a great response from our engaged community. Your input contributes to the Strategic Plan process that will set out what St Mary's College would like to achieve in the next two to three years and how we get there.

We will be closing the survey on **Sunday 24 October**. If you have not already contributed and would like to submit your response, families have been sent a reminder email dated 21 October containing the link.

**Principal | Terry Blizzard**

## Strategic Plan - Parent Survey

*Dear Parents/Guardians*

*I write to you in relation to the development of the College's Strategic Plan. As a newly established co-educational college, it is important that St Mary's College has a clear sense of where we want to be in the short to medium term. Our plan will identify what we want to achieve in the next two to three years and how we plan to get there.*

*To develop our road map for the future it is important that the Advisory Board, the staff, parents, and students contribute to the process. I would like to invite you to complete an online survey. The survey will take about 10 minutes to complete and will be sent to your email account registered with the College.*

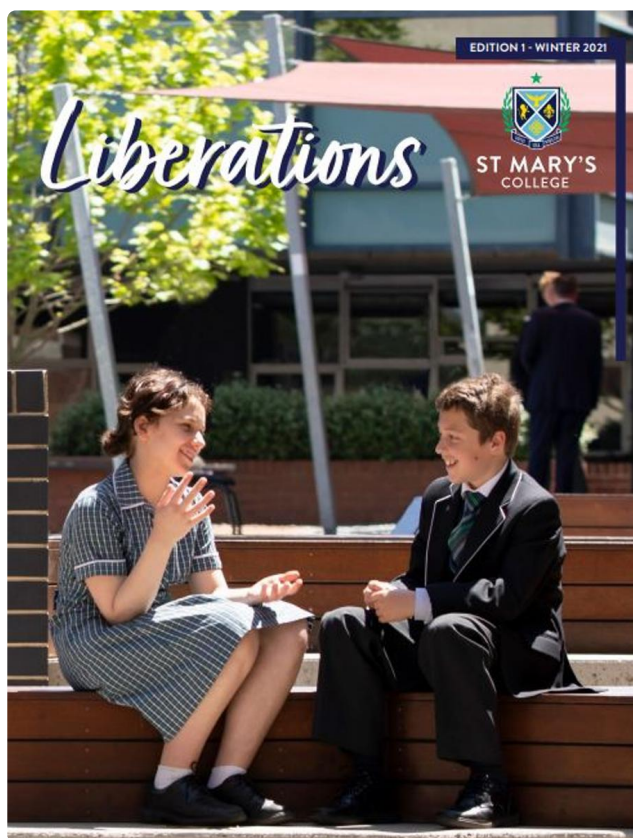
*The survey will remain open until **5pm on Thursday 28 October**.*

*I hope you take this opportunity to contribute to shaping the future of St Mary's College.*

*I will continue to communicate with you about progress on the development of the Strategic Plan. We hope to be able to publish the plan at the beginning of 2022.*

*Terry Blizzard*

*Principal*



**Introducing *Liberations*, the St Mary's College magazine.**

In this first edition we celebrate the journey of launching our co-educational college and celebrate our students' experience. Our magazine also links our past by celebrating our Alumni Network. You can read stories from past students of CBC and PCW who are an

integral part of our past and support our future. We look forward to publishing stories of the Class of '21 next year as they become the first graduating cohort of St Mary's College.

Online copies are found on the College website on the [Publications](#) page or [Alumni](#) page. Printed copies will be available at reception of our Campuses, and at future onsite Tours, Open Days and Reunions.

If you would like to contribute to Alumni news, please email the editor, Elaine Doyle [edoyle@stmaryscollege.vic.edu.au](mailto:edoyle@stmaryscollege.vic.edu.au)

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## Enrol now for Year 7, 2023

Please share with your community interested in St Mary's College, a reminder to enrol online for Year 7, 2023 as interviews and places are currently being finalised.

[Apply Today](#)

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## You can visit us online

### Tour Dates for 2021

Please pass on to friends and family who are interested in a co-educational Catholic education. We now have online and on site ways to visit our College.

***Thursday 14 October 9:30am - Talk and Tour (online)***

***Thursday 11 November 12:30 - Conversations with the Principal (online)***



**TOURS  
SCHOLARSHIPS  
ENROL TODAY**

**BOOK YOUR TOUR TODAY**

### Online Enrolment for 2023

## Midford Uniform Shop

The Midford Uniform Shop trading hours

Tuesday 8:00 am - 4:00 pm

Thursday 8:00 am - 4:00 pm

*Check in, hand sanitizing and wearing masks are conditions of entry with 1 customer capacity limit.*

**Did you know you can order online uniforms from the Midford Uniform Shop?**

Online orders are welcomed and provide a COVID safe way to purchase uniforms

<http://www.midford.com.au/>

(enter **SMC2021**).

Ph **9520 8519**





# Parents & Friends

## P & F Meeting

Next meeting: **Monday 11 October** - Online

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At our most recent meeting on 6th September, we were pleased be able allocate funds for a number of initiatives to support our students and families. These included providing outdoor tables and chairs, paying the registration fee for all our families to trade textbooks, etc, for Sustainable School Shop and also providing the items for our Year 12 students' support packs.

These support packs were assembled by staff volunteers last week and handed out to grateful students following the GAT exams earlier in the week. They contained snacks, calming oil, lip balm, some sunflower planting seeds (to cultivate some sunshine), cookies (thanks to Sandie from Food Technology), a support card from the P & F (thanks to Felicity from Sun Shiny Design), and letters and messages of support from staff. We were also grateful to Holmesglen Institute and Marshall White for providing the carry bags.



*Life is a storm that will test you unc  
Don't wait for calm waters that may  
Derive purpose from resilience.  
Learn to sail the raging sea.  
Unknown*

### **P & F Meeting**

Our next P & F meeting is this coming Monday 11 September at 7:00pm, online via Teams.

Microsoft Teams meeting

Join on your computer or mobile app

**[Click here to join the meeting](#)**

Or call in (audio only)

[+61 2 7208 4605,,426549594#](#) Australia, Sydney

Phone Conference ID: 426 549 594#

[Find a local number](#) | [Reset PIN](#)

[Learn More](#) | [Meeting options](#)

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Please join us to hear from our Principal, Terry Blizzard, Deputy Principal, Shaun Lancashire, and other members of our community. Have your say and take the opportunity to raise any queries you may have - we are always keen to hear from our community. No ongoing committee or fundraising commitments are expected.

We always welcome interest and engagement from our families. If you are interested, add the meeting details to your calendar and we hope to see or hear from you on the evening.

**President of Parents & Friends** | Jane Leroi



# Notices

## Enrolments for 2022

Please note that we have commenced our planning for 2022 and confirming places for new students to start in Term 1, 2022. Unless we have already been advised, we are presuming that all current students will be returning to the College in 2022.

**If a student is not returning to the College, in line with the enrolment policy, one term's notice in writing is required. If the notice is not received on time, one term's tuition fees in lieu of notice will be charged.** This requirement is clearly noted in the General Terms & Conditions of Enrolment which forms part of the Application for Enrolment signed by all parents/guardians when their child(ren) was enrolled.

**To assist our planning, please advise the College immediately, if a student is not returning to the College in 2022.** The notice should be addressed to the College Registrar and can be sent via email to [registrar@stmaryscollege.vic.edu.au](mailto:registrar@stmaryscollege.vic.edu.au) It will be helpful to receive this notice as soon as possible as it will allow us to offer any vacant places to students on our waiting lists.

*If there are siblings of current students wanting to enrol at the College, it is important that parents submit an Application for Enrolment two years prior to the planned year of entry. Siblings are not guaranteed a place if the Application for Admission is late. Late applicants will be placed onto the waiting list.*

Please do not hesitate to speak with the Registrar, Mrs Leah Mason, if you have any concerns regarding this information or if you need further clarification.

## 2021 Fee Accounts

All 2021 Fee Accounts were due and payable by 31 March 2021, unless an approved Payment Plan was in place by this date.

All families wishing to enter a Payment Plan arrangement should have already completed, signed and lodged a 2021 Fee Payment Agreement Form with the Finance Office. If you have not done so, please lodge the relevant documentation as soon as possible.

All payment arrangements must be finalised by **31 October 2021** unless otherwise agreed with my office. Documents in relation to Fees and Payment Arrangements can be found in the Parent Access Module PAM (SIMON).

**Business Manager | Andrew O'Brien**

## 2021 Fee Accounts

All families are reminded that all outstanding 2021 Fee Accounts and outstanding account balances are required to be finalised in October, unless you have an approved payment plan.

Families are requested to ensure that Fee Accounts are settled by the end of October or contact the Finance Office to discuss an approved payment plan arrangement.

Families who currently have approved payments plans or have settled their Fee Account balances; please disregard this notice.

We appreciate your assistance in settling outstanding Fee Account balances as soon as possible. If you have any questions, please contact Marina Gutnik in the Finance Office on 9529 6611 or [fees@stmaryscollege.vic.edu.au](mailto:fees@stmaryscollege.vic.edu.au).

Documents in relation to Fees and Payment Arrangements can be found in the Parent Access Module PAM (SIMON)

## 2021 / 2022 Capital Works

We are pleased advise that St Mary's College will be commencing work on a new Lift and Stair on the McCartney Wing of Edmund Rice Campus together with a new entrance ramp at the Main Reception entrance in December 2021. The new capital works will provide disability access to the Campus buildings and learning areas making it easier for people to move throughout the Edmund Rice Campus. The College is in the process of appointing a builder.

Pictured below is an impression of the proposed new Lift and Stair.

**ST MARY'S COLLEGE**  
STAGE 1 MODERNISATION WORKS TO  
MCCARTNEY WING + CORBETT WING



**KENNEDY  
NOLAN**

We look forward to providing you updates on the stages of this exciting project.

**Business Manager | Andrew O'Brien**